MADRP Bulletin

Maine Association of Dispute Resolution Professionals



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Message from the President

My husband Robin and I headed north for Baxter State Park following Labor Day weekend. We had spent the weekend with family and it was full of fun-.nonstop. And then we headed for Baxter- which for us is about getting away from it all. There are no phones, no email and no flushing toilets. It's gloriously remote- and is the place that renews me like no other. My wind down period was longer this time and I found myself answering cell phone calls way past Medway and through Millinocket and had just reached that place where the paper company road begins to run parallel to the road we were on- the Golden Road- when my phone displayed that happy message "no service". But even then my thoughts continued to stray to this and that project and all that had been left undone (lots). It took the paddle across Kidney Pond to Camp OJI, our one-room log cabin, a night with the rain pattering on the roof, the loons calling, and a campfire breakfast to finally get my thoughts and psyche present. Wow. It showed me once again how hyped-up life gets and how important it is to take the time to decompress. And of course I remember once again how much good this does for me but also for everyone I connect with, including my clients who most definitely need me to be present. I know you are all are well aware of our need to decompress regularly and how it effects our practice but I just wanted to share my moment while it was still very present with me...in the hopes that maybe I could holding onto it just a little bit longer. -Susanna—

SAVE THE DATE

MADRP's Fall Conference and annual meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2004. 8:30 am -4:00 pm SENATOR INN in Augusta

Join one of the authors of <u>Difficult Conversations</u> and then— using their process— join in a discussion about some of our more difficult conversations. This might include— the issue of credentialing, merging with ACR, orientations of mediation, business and family mediation, mediation used as early neutral evaluation, ethical differences... Add your ideas to the mix by contacting Jeff Croft, Events Chair, at jeff@solidecisions.com

The September 1st membership meeting in Bangor was a discussion session led by Tracy Quadro. Tracy, along with members Karen Tucker and Mary Cline, attended a recent meeting of the American College of Civil Trial Mediators in Bar Harbor.

One of the workshop sessions there was a "toolbox" of techniques that may be helpful in breaking impasse. The tools discussed were mainly mathematical "tricks" to help the parties agree on a number that was somewhere in the middle of their expectations.

One method was nicknamed the "Silver Bullet." The Mediator in this method becomes an impasse-breaker and their job is to present a settlement number to each party in caucus. If both parties agree on the number, the settlement is completed. If one or both parties reject the number, the mediation continues.

We discussed the ethical implications of such a technique, the power inherent in the role of mediator in every session, the special questions posed when the mediator is also a judge or former judge, and when the mediator and the parties or their attorneys have a relationship. The lively, interesting and informative discourse highlighted the varied philosophies and styles of those present, and the continuing development of the definition of mediation.

I only went out for a walk and ended up staying out until sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in.

John Muir (1838-1914), American naturalist

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MADRP UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

MADRP Reading Group

Come to MADRP's first Book Group in Portland on October 5th from 12:00 to 1:30. The first reading is an excerpt from Bernie Mayer's book, <u>Beyond Neutrality, Conflict Resolution: A Field in Crisis</u>. This excerpt, the first chapter of the book, can be found by going to http://www.mediate.com/articles/mayerB1.cfm

Our first meeting will be at USM's Campus Center room C (on Forest Ave at Pier One- turn towards onto Bedford Street and the campus). The new garage is up a block on your left or you can try the parking lot on your right (but it may be difficult to find a space). Find Nolan Thompson in room C (and get a parking pass if you did manage to find a space in that lot). Come join MADRP's members—to see what others think about his views.

RSVP to Diane Kenty at dkenty@maine.rr.com so we have a sense of numbers - but come anyways at the last minute if your day opens up. There is a dining hall in the same building - so you can get coffee and lunch if you wish. See you there.

Brown Bag Discussion Group

The Professional Development Committee held a Brown Bag Discussion Group following the Bangor membership meeting. There were 8 of us in attendance and the dialogue was lively, interesting and we all agreed very helpful. We discussed the Apprenticeship Program, the benefits and challenges of the initial effort and agreed it was an important aspect in the development of Mediators. The Apprenticeship Program gave both new mediators and mediation centers great opportunities. Conversations and actions will continue. We did not want to let our learning from this initial effort get lost. The group also discussed offering a workshop tentatively titled "So you want to be a mediator. . . " . It would include requirements to be a mediator, types of mediation practices (family, divorce, environmental, small claims etc.), creative ways to use mediation training, marketing your practice and financial expectations. These were just a few of the workshop components discussed. Watch for more information as this topic is developed.

We also shared some "sticky situations" and for new and experienced mediators alike we all agreed it was an enriching dialogue. It reinforced the support we can give each other as we do this solo work. Watch for an e-mail for upcoming Brown Bag Discussion Groups coming to your area (Portland,

Maine Family Law from A to Z

Presented by Cushman Anthony Esq. and June Zellers, Esq. **Thursday and Friday, October 21, 22 9:00-3:00**

Learn the basics of the law and court procedures that enable mediators to successfully handle family law cases and fulfill the required 10 hours of family law training to qualify for listing on the CADRES domestic relations roster. This course also qualifies for continuing education credits for retention on CADRES roster. To register contact: Cushman Anthony at 775-3091 mainemedi8@aol.com or June Zellers at 582-9007 jzellers@prexar.com.

MADRP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 5th: 12:00–1:30 Book Group USM library 5th floor

October 6th: 8:30 to 11:30 Board of Governors meeting, 11 King St. Augusta

November 10th: 8:30 am-4:00 pm Annual Conference and Meeting

Senator Inn, Augusta



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September Sponsor

Daniel Wathen began practicing law in 1965. In 1977, he was appointed as a Justice of the Maine Superior Court for four years, ten years as a Justice of the

Maine Supreme Judicial Court, and ten years as Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. Following his 2001 retirement from the bench, he began to spend a substantial portion of his time serving as a mediator, arbitrator and neutral in Maine, other states and Puerto Rico. He has successfully mediated claims involving public works projects, construction, products liability, employment, professional malpractice and personal injury. Dan received mediation training in 2002 at the Center for Dispute Settlement in Washington, D.C., and is listed on panels of neutrals maintained by the American Arbitration Association. American Health Lawyers Association, CPR Institute for Dispute Resolution, the Maine Court System and the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

He serves as Court Master in class action litigation involving the operation of a state psychiatric hospital and the community mental health system throughout Maine. He is Chair of the Diocesan Review Committee that reviews allegations of sexual abuse of children by Catholic clergy or church officials and maintains a working relationship with survivor and victim advocacy groups.

Dan can be reached at PierceAtwood, 207.791.1115 or dwathen@pierceatwood.com.

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Language has created the word "loneliness" to express the pain of being alone. And it has created the word "solitude" to express the glory of being alone.

-- Paul Johannes Tillich, from The Eternal Now

Let's hear from you:

We all know that anger is part of conflict but is the expression of anger a necessary part of the mediation session? Can we have resolution without the expression of anger? When do we defuse it?' What do you do if other people at the table are intimidated by anger.

What do you do with high expressions of anger in your sessions? Even if you know what you "should do" how do you feel about it? How did you make your decision about this? What advice would you give to other Mediators in relation to anger.

Write your answers to these questions— or your own ideas about anger to me —and also send me a dilemma

The little things? The little moments? They aren't little. -- Jon Kabat-Zinn

Give in to the urge to write: send responses, opinions, poems inspirational thoughts to nmark@usm.maine.edu

MAINE ASSOCIATION OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROFESSIONALS (MADRP)

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"Speech is civilization itself. The word, even the most contradictory word, preserves contact- it is silence which isolates."

--Thomas Mann

2004 MADRP Officers

Susanna Liller, President Diane Kenty, Vice President Carol Corwin, Treasurer Tracy Quadro, Secretary



2004 Committee Chairs

Expansion: Bambi Magaw/ Marc Sevigny

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Profession Development: Kathy Leen Resource development: Anita Jones

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Maine Residential Real Estate Mediation Program (MRREMP) Jack Erler

Bulletin: Nancy Markowitz

Nominating Committee: Anita Jones

At-large Board members: Karen Tucker, Dan Eichorn

MADRP MISSION

MADRP is a non-profit organization of diverse professional interests seeking to broaden public understanding and acceptance of alternative forms of dispute resolution. MADRP strives to enhance professional skills and qualifications of mediators, arbitrators, and other neutrals through training, educational development and promotion of standards of professional conduct.